

CLAIMS

1. A grain immersion method comprising: a step of storing grains for water absorption and water within a pressure-resistant container; a step of reducing the pressure in the pressure-resistant 5 container; and a step of releasing the reduced pressure.

2. The grain immersion method according to Claim 1, characterized in that the step of releasing the reduced pressure is a step of abruptly restoring the normal pressure.

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3. The grain immersion method according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the pressure reduction in the step of reducing the pressure in the pressure-resistant container is to maintain a degree of vacuum at about 10^{-4} Torr at a certain period.

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4. A grain immersion apparatus comprising: a pressure-resistant container including: a supply port for the grains and water, which is either common or separate, and a connecting port for a vacuum pump on the upper portion; and a 20 discharge port for the grains after having immersed on the lower portion.

5. The grain immersion apparatus according to Claim 4, characterized in that the pressure-resistant container further 25 comprises a reduced pressure releasing port on the upper portion thereof.

6. The grain immersion apparatus according to Claim 4 or 5, characterized in that the vacuum pump has a capability of maintaining a degree of vacuum of 10^{-5} to 10^{-4} Torr in a state of being connected to the pressure-resistant container.

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